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Prevention of armed conflict: strengthening the role of mediation in the peaceful settlement of disputes, conflict prevention and resolution

Security Council
Seventy-first year

Letter dated 8 August 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose herewith the statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine on the eighth anniversary of the Russian aggression against Georgia (see annex).

Eight years ago, the Russian Federation started its military aggression against Georgia on the very first day of the 2008 Olympic Games. Two years ago, during the 2014 Olympic Games, the Russian Federation started its military aggression against Ukraine, which became the major crisis in Europe since the Second World War. These actions by the Russian Federation proved that the Kremlin did not just disregard the principles of the Olympic Truce strongly promoted by the United Nations, but also once again blatantly violated the Charter of the United Nations, international law and its international obligations. Ukraine calls upon the international community to consolidate efforts and increase pressure on Russia until its complete cessation of any aggression against neighbouring States.

I would appreciate your having the present letter and its annex distributed as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 34 (b), and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Volodymyr **Yelchenko**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 8 August 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine on the eighth anniversary of the Russian aggression against Georgia

7 August marks eight years since the Russian Federation unleashed war against Georgia, which resulted in the Russian occupation of a significant part of the territory of a sovereign country.

Since the international community has not given a strong and unequivocal response to the Russian aggression against Georgia, the Russian Federation has chosen the next target — Ukraine.

The occupation of the regions of Georgia, the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and Sevastopol and the ongoing Russian aggression in Donbas prove that Russia continues to blatantly violate the Charter of the United Nations, international law and its international obligations and threatens Euro-Atlantic peace and security.

Ukraine confirms its full respect for the sovereignty and the territorial integrity of Georgia within its internationally recognized borders and calls upon the international community to consolidate efforts and increase pressure on Russia until its complete cessation of any aggression against neighbouring States.